



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Petersburg National Battlefield
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Petersburg National Battlefield News Release

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Petersburg National Battlefield Celebrates National Trails Day®

PETERSBURG, Va – Petersburg National Battlefield is hosting a National Trails Day® event on Saturday, June 8th. Several activities will be going on throughout the day including trail maintenance, history walks, musket firings, and an orienteering lesson. All activities will take place at the Eastern Front Unit (Main Unit) located at 5001 Siege Road in Petersburg. Events are as follows:

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| 9:00-12:00 pm | New trail construction on the Crater Battlefield. Meet at Tour Stop #8.
Volunteers are recommended to wear long pants and bring water, closed toe shoes, work gloves and insect repellent. Groups of 8 or larger are requested to call ahead to RSVP at 804-732-0171 ext. 302, or e-mail Laura_Kellam@partner.nps.gov . |
| 10:00-11:30 am | Historical walk, including reenactors and musket firings, begins just over bridge |
| 12:00 1:30 pm | at the first trail crossing on the Tour Road. Space is limited to 10 people per hike.
Please call 804-732-3531 ext. 205 to reserve a space. |
| 12:00-2:00 pm | Orienteering lesson begins at Tour Stop 3. A park volunteer will help visitors understand orienteering basics and oversee a 2-mile orienteering course along the park trails. Long pants and bug spray are encouraged. |
| 2:00-3:00 pm | Historical and nature hike begins at the Eastern Front Visitor Center. |

For those who want to get out and enjoy the 10 mile trail system on their own, we have placed three small wooden tokens somewhere along the Eastern Front trails. If you find one of these tokens, return it to the Eastern Front visitor center for a battlefield hiking medallion, a battlefield hat, or a battlefield patch.

The park also has a Boy Scout Historical 10 mile hike that can be completed and patch purchased, as well as a virtual Geocaching opportunity that can be completed any time throughout the year.

About National Trails Day®

"American Hiking Society's National Trails Day® is a nationally recognized trail awareness program that occurs annually on the first Saturday of June and inspires the public to discover, learn about, and celebrate trails while participating in outdoor activities, clinics, and trail stewardship projects. National Trails Day® is a registered trademark of American Hiking Society." National Trails Day® was created in 1993 by the American Hiking Society as a way to encourage people to get outside and experience the physical and emotional health benefits nature has to offer. For more information, visit the American Hiking Society's web site, <http://www.americanhiking.org/National-Trails-Day/Info>.

American Hiking Society's Mission Statement: Since its founding in 1976, American Hiking Society has been the only national voice for hikers - dedicated to promoting and protecting America's hiking trails, their surrounding natural areas, and the hiking experience.

If You Go

The Eastern Front Unit of Petersburg National Battlefield is the location where Union troops made their first major attacks on the City of Petersburg in mid-June, 1864. Today, visitors can learn more about the history of the site by touring the museum, viewing the 17 minute video, or travelling the Unit's four mile, 7 stop tour road. There are also ten miles of nature trails suitable for hiking, bicycling and horseback riding. The Eastern Front Unit of Petersburg National Battlefield is located at 5001 Siege Road in Petersburg. For more information, please call 804-732-3531.

Petersburg National Battlefield was created in order to commemorate the campaign and siege and defense of Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864 and 1865. The park staff is committed to preserving and protecting the historical, cultural, and natural resources within the park in a manner that will provide interpretation, education, and enjoyment for the visitors. Park Visitor Centers, located in Petersburg, Hopewell, and Dinwiddie County are each open from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The fee to enter the park is \$5 per vehicle, however the Petersburg National Battlefield annual pass and federal recreation passes are also honored. For more information about events at Petersburg National Battlefield, visit our website at www.nps.gov/pete, become a fan on our Facebook page, or follow us on Twitter @PetersburgNPS.